

# ST. MARK LUTHERAN CHURCH

A congregation of the  
**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**  
welcomes you!

February 22,  
2026



The First  
Sunday in  
Lent

## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

“SHINE” CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP: 6:00 PM (1<sup>ST</sup> SATURDAYS-CHAPEL)

### SUNDAY

THE DIVINE LITURGY: 9:00AM

EDUCATION HOUR: 10:30AM

**105 EAST “D” STREET BELLEVILLE, IL 62220**

**EMAIL: [WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG](mailto:WORSHIP@STMARKBELLEVILLE.ORG)**

***THE REV. BRIAN M. ROBISON, PASTOR***

***THE REV. RONALD C. NEUSTADT, PASTOR EMERITUS***

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- + **To parents with small children:** We are glad your family is worshipping with us today! “*Quiet Bags*” (supplies & activities for use by small children) are available in the Welcome Area. If you or your child need a break from the service, feel free to use the Welcome Area/narthex (the service is audible over the speakers).
  - + An **accessible Restroom** is available off the Welcome Area/Narthex next to the **accessibility lift** to the lower level. **Parish Hall and additional Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the main church building. The stairway is off the entrance foyer. An usher will be happy to assist you with the lift.
  - + **Assistive listening devices** and **low vision items** are available. Please ask one of our ushers for assistance.
  - + **Land Acknowledgement:** This church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the **Quapaw, Myaamia, Kaskaskia, and Kickapoo** peoples, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and still call this land home.

**PRELUDE**

*“Assurance (with Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring)”*

*Kapp/Bach*

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS** *Please STAND as you are able*

Blessed be the Father, +Son, and Holy Spirit – the one God who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

*Please KNEEL or remain as you are*

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:

Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For failing to recognize your coming reign,  
and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition,  
and for disdainning the living water Christ offers: Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin,  
and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent,  
and for disregarding Christ’s call to come forth to life:  
Gracious God,  
**have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

God’s steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God’s love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. **Amen.**



1 As the win - ter days grow long - er, draw - ing short the hours of night;  
 2 As the vines burst in - to blos - som, fra - grant in the morn - ing air,  
 3 As we jour - ney through this sea - son, pil - grims through a thirst - y land,



as our ea - ger ex - pec - ta - tion waits for Eas - ter's dawn - ing light—  
 lift - ing spir - its with their sweet - ness, lur - ing hearts to thank - ful prayer—  
 quench us with your liv - ing pres - ence; guide us with your lov - ing hand.



yearn - ing peo - ple, here we gath - er, turn - ing watch - ful eyes to you:  
 Lent - en peo - ple, here we gath - er, seek - ing lives re - fresh - ed from sin.  
 Wan - d'ring peo - ple, here we gath - er, called to rest a - long our way.



God who bless - es earth with spring - time, shine with - in our world a - new!  
 God who bless - es earth with spring - time, bloom with - in our hearts a - gain!  
 God who bless - es earth with spring - time, grant us sab - bath joy this day!

**GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

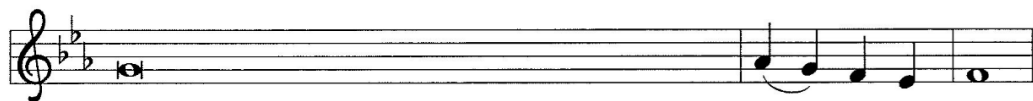
**KYRIE**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



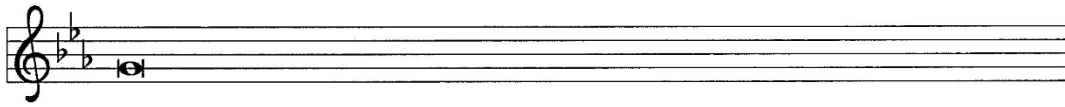
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray... Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Following the prayer, please SIT.*

## WORD

### FIRST READING: Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

<sup>15</sup> The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup> And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, <sup>17</sup> but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

<sup>3:1</sup> Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’” <sup>2</sup> The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, <sup>3</sup> but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” <sup>4</sup> But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die, <sup>5</sup> for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” <sup>6</sup> So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup> Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 32** *spoken responsively*

<sup>1</sup> Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,  
**and whose sin is | put away!**

<sup>2</sup> Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
**and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup> While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
**because of my groaning | all day long.**

<sup>4</sup> For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;  
**my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup> Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

**I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”  
Then you forgave me the guilt | of my sin.**

<sup>6</sup> Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;  
**when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup> You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;  
**you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.**

<sup>8</sup> “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;  
**I will guide you | with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;  
**who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”**

<sup>10</sup> Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;  
**but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup> Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;  
**shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.**

## SECOND READING: Romans 5:12-19

<sup>12</sup> Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned <sup>13</sup> for sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup> Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who did not sin in the likeness of Adam, who is a pattern of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup> But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup> And the gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup> If, because of the one man's trespass, death reigned through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

<sup>18</sup> Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup> For just as through the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so through the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA VERSE *The assembly STANDS to welcome the gospel.*

S 103

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

## GOSPEL: Matthew 4:1-11

A reading from the Holy Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as recorded by the apostle Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup> Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. <sup>2</sup> He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. <sup>3</sup> The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." <sup>4</sup> But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.' "

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup> saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’  
 and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,  
 so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, <sup>9</sup> and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
 and serve only him.’ ”

<sup>11</sup> Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *Please SIT*

**SERMON**

*“Already Held”*

**The Rev. Brian M. Robison**

*Following the sermon, the assembly STANDS to proclaim the word of God in song.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**“A Mighty Fortress”**

**ELW 504**

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat -'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who

to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with

wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,

has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,

he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

## **APOSTLES CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,**

**God's only Son, our Lord.**

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

**born of the virgin Mary,**

**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;**

**He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;**

**he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

**the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body,**

**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION** *The names of those for whom we pray aloud (members, staff, first-time additions) are listed below. Please read only the first names. Other prayer intentions can be found in the back of this bulletin. The response to "Hear us, O God," is "Your mercy is great."*

**Ken** Augustine, **Eleanor** Benton, **Rob** Buck, **Gary** Dozier, **Marva** Dowty, **Charlie** Duncan,  
**Evelyn** Duncan, **Art** Engelage, **Michael** Foppe, **Morris** Kugler, **Bruce** Martens, **Lucy** Montgomery,  
**Ron** Neustadt, **Tina** Partelow, **Marilyn** Robinson, **Cohen** Summers, **Carol** Weshinsky, **Gary** Weshinsky,  
**Molly** Witherell, **Jim** Boeving, **Tom** Stookey

**PEACE** *The assembly is invited to share a greeting of God's peace with one another. Following **the Peace**, you may be **seated** for a few moments.*

**BELL CHOIR**

*"Seek Ye First"*

*Wagner*

**OFFERING** *Should you wish to leave an offering today, it may be placed in the wooden box on the table near the baptismal font at any point during or after the service.*

**OFFERING PRAYER** *Please **STAND** as you are able*

*Assistant:* Let us pray together...

**O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation.**

**You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty.**

**Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING** *Spoken*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*It is indeed right...we praise your name, and join their unending hymn:*

## **HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** *Spoken*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**



## **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER** *traditional*

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

**Thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;**

**and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

### **LAMB OF GOD** *spoken*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

***Communion is open to everyone. In this sacrament, we believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. At this service, communion will be served from around the altar rail. At the usher's direction, please come forward and kneel at the altar rail.***

- ✘ *After receiving the bread, you may take an individual cup or drink from the chalice.*
- ✘ *You may return to your seat after communing.*
- ✘ *Those who do not wish to commune may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms over your chest to indicate this preference.*
- ✘ *Reception of the Eucharist under one kind (bread or wine) is valid communion for those who must avoid either for health reasons.*
- ✘ *If you are unable to go to the altar for communion, please notify an usher or the pastor, so that communion may be brought to you in your pew.*

## SONGS DURING THE DISTRIBUTION:

### “Lord, Jesus, Think on Me”

ELW 599



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the hymn, and the second staff contains the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

1 Lord Je - sus, think on me, and purge a - way my sin;  
2 Lord Je - sus, think on me, by anx - ious thoughts op - pressed;  
3 Lord Je - sus, think on me, nor let me go a - stray;  
4 Lord Je - sus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,

from self - ish pas - sions set me free and make me pure with - in.  
let me your lov - ing ser - vant be and taste your prom - ised rest.  
through dark - ness and per - plex - i - ty point out your cho - sen way.  
I may the e - ter - nal bright - ness see and share your joy at last.

## CHOIR ANTHEM

### “The Flame”

Lantz

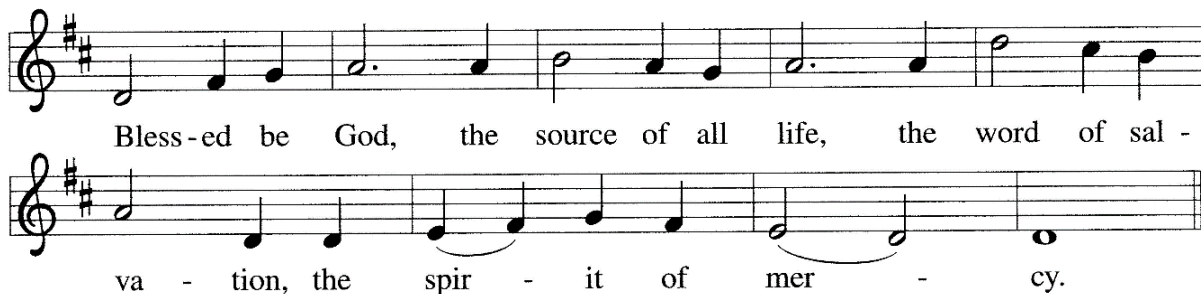
*Text can be found on the last page of the bulletin*

*After the distribution is complete, the assembly STANDS for the blessing.*

## TABLE BLESSING

The Body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

## CANTICLE AFTER COMMUNION “Blessed Be God, the Source of All Life” ELW 210



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the first line of the canticle, and the second staff contains the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

Bless - ed be God, the source of all life, the word of sal -  
va - tion, the spir - it of mer - cy.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Assistant:* Let us pray together...

**God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ’s body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

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## BENEDICTION

Receive the blessing of the most Holy Trinity: God, who calls all things into existence, Jesus Christ, who redeems us, and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation, † bless you now and always. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

### “I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

ELW 325

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;  
me; I want Je - sus to walk with me;  
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; walk with  
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;  
me; all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,  
when my heart is al - most break - ing,  
when my head is bowed in sor - row,  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me. walk with me.  
Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news. **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

“Fugue in C Minor (The Fanfare Fugue)”

J.S. Bach

### MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

**Presider & Preacher:** The Rev. Brian M. Robison + **Assisting Minister:** Danielle Tributou

**Lector & Crucifer:** Corbin Monfre + **Tech Minister:** Aaron Fuchs

**Chalice Bearer:** Greg Martens + **Safety Volunteer:** Tina Partelow

**Ushers:** Kathy Casey & Nancy Guenther + **Organist:** Carol Kugler

**The Flame** by Susan Bentall Boersma and David Lantz

*Holy Spirit burning with a love divine; Tongues of fire shattered darkness when You came.*

*Holy Spirit, rushing wind and holy fire, light my heart with the pow'r of Your Name.*

*Like a moth drawn to the candle, Spirit, draw me to Your fire.*

*Lift my wings and let me fly(2x). Let me fly, closer to the flame.*

*Draw me closer to the flame, ever closer to the flame.*

*Holy Spirit, with your purifying blaze kindle my soul, and draw me closer to the flame.*

*Like a moth drawn to the candle, Spirit, draw me to your fire.*

*Lift my wings and let me fly(2x). Let me fly, closer to the flame.*

*Like a moth drawn to the candle, Spirit, draw me to Your fire.*

*Lift my wings and let me fly(2x). Let me fly, closer to the flame.*

*Draw me closer to the flame, ever closer to the flame.*

*Holy Spirit, draw me closer to the flame, ever closer to the flame, to the flame.*

## **Prayer Intentions**

### **St. Mark Members**

Ken Augustine, Eleanor Benton, Rob Buck, Marva Dowty, Gary Dozier, Charlie Duncan, Evelyn Duncan, Art Engelage, Michael Foppe, Morris Kugler, Bruce Martens, Lucy Montgomery, Tina Partelow, Marilyn Robinson, Cohen Summers, Carol and Gary Weshinsky

### **St. Mark Family and Friends**

Dennis Althardt, Bert Alvarez, Stellamarie Bearth, John Belz, Jim Boeving, Thomas Boxdorfer, Jim Braeutigam, Patty Brennecke, Susan Carson, Christine, Arianna Curnes, Catherine Davis, Mike Ellison, Katrina Fenner, Josh Gansmann, Christine Gass, Viv Gillespie, Joni Giordano, David Graber, Stephanie Groennert, TC Groennert, Glenna Hamilton, Andrea Hendrix, Jamie House, Jimmy Jurgens, Austin Lickenbrock, Dusty Little, Donna Loesche, Becky Loeschner, Wyatt Madison, Christopher Martiszus, Bobby & Joyce McCall, Don McCoy, Allen Martens, Janet Middendorf, Linda Munn, Pr. Ron & Debbie Neustadt, Dean Norrenberns, Hilda Parnell, Tim & Missy Partelow, Larry Powers, Goldie Rideout, Darrell Robinson, Sarah and Family, Jill Schlueter, Stefanie Schroeder, Denise Sebastian, David & Donna Sims, Margie Snep, Tom Stookey, Ingrid Thompson, David Vaught, Toni Walston, Louise Wilson, Margie Wilson, Molly Witherell, Karen Woolf, Wilma Woolf, Ken Zika, Chloe Zipperer

### **Members and Friends Serving in Our Nation's Military**

Ethan Collins, Taiylar Foppe Merrel, Josh Merrel, Ryan McKenzie, Amy Morgan

### **Members celebrating birthdays this week**

Becky Evans (2/22), Elizabeth Crosby (2/24),

Bruce Martens (2/26), and Lilly Renner-Brown (2/27)

### **Members celebrating Wedding Anniversaries this week**

Mary & Pete Wittenstrom (2/28)

# M A R K T I M E S

## News & Notes for February 22, 2026

### THE WEEK AHEAD

<b>Monday, February 23:</b>	6:00PM	Pastoral Care committee – conference room
	6:30PM	Yoga – Parish Hall
	7:00PM	Church Council – conference room
<b>Wednesday, February 25:</b>	6:00PM	Soup supper – Parish Hall
	7:00PM	Lent Evening Prayer - church
<b>Thursday, February 26:</b>	4:15PM	Chancel choir
	6:00PM	Bell Choir
<b>Saturday, February 28:</b>	10A-2P	Lenten Quiet Day - Toddhall

### Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers

Come enjoy a nice evening of fellowship over a meal of soup and salad at **6:00PM** in the Parish Hall on the **Wednesdays of Lent**, before joining us in the church for **evening prayer** at **7:00PM**.

Form a group and host one of the suppers! A sign-up sheet is in the Parish Hall near the coffee stand.

### Lenten Evening Prayer: *Ad Astra per Aspera*

This Lent, journey with us on **Wednesdays** at **7:00PM** in the church for a special evening prayer series: “*Ad Astra Per Aspera: A Trek Through Lent.*” Using a space exploration theme inspired by events like Sputnik, the Space Shuttle Challenger, Apollo 13, and more, we’ll explore how faith carries us “*through hardships to the stars.*” Each service includes Scripture, prayer, and reflection shaped in the style of Evening Prayer from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. Come be grounded in God’s grace as we trek together toward Easter hope.



### Lenten Quiet Day

If you signed up to attend the Lenten Quiet Day at **Toddhall** (320 Todd Center Drive, Columbia), that event is **this Saturday, February 28** from **10am to 2pm**. When you arrive, park to the right in the long parking lot, and walk\* due west to **St. Cecilia’s chapel**, where we will begin.

\*If walking a distance is difficult, you may be dropped off in front of the chapel.

### Yoga Day Change in February

To accommodate Lenten midweek activities for both churches, yoga classes have moved to **Mondays at 6:30pm through the end of May.**



## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee

St. Mark Lutheran Church celebrates the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its first worship service on December 6, 2026. This will kick off a year of celebration surrounding our 50<sup>th</sup> year. We are looking for members who might be interested in serving on a **planning committee** to devise ideas for events to help celebrate this milestone. Please contact Pastor Brian if you're interested!

## Christ Community Trivia Night Fundraiser!

Visit the sweetness of "Jesus Land" at **Christ Community Lutheran Church** (Columbia) for their annual TRIVIA NIGHT youth fundraiser on **Saturday, March 21** from **6-8:00PM** (doors open at 5:30p)! \*This event will raise funds for this summer's youth mission trip to Duluth, MN, **which our youth from St. Mark will be participating in!** 10 awesome kids are going on this trip so far!

+ Cost is **\$15 per person**, or **\$110 for a table of 8**

+ Bring your own food and snacks. Drinks will be available for purchase including mocktails, soda, and water.

+ Costume and Table Decorating Contests - dress up as your favorite Board Game and/or create cool matching table decor. Time to GET CREATIVE!!

+ Generic trivia categories - there will be something for everyone!

+ Childcare available

+ Raffle baskets and 50/50

\*\*Let **Melanie** know if you are planning to join, and she will sign up all the tables at once. Checks can be written to **St. Mark Youth**.



## Bunny Bazaar Coming March 22!

On **Sunday, March 22**, in the tradition of November's "Pumpkin Palooza," we will host an Easter/Spring-themed **bake sale and craft sale** between and after all three services, with proceeds to **benefit our combined Food Pantry**. Bake an Easter/spring treat and bring before services on March 22!



**St. Mark Offerings for 2/15:** General Fund: **\$3,348**; Toni Brendel Memorial: \$100;

I'VE ALWAYS  
LOVED  
HOW JESUS  
FACES DOWN  
TEMPTATION.



WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

YEAH.



HIS POWER  
IS IN THE  
WORD OF GOD.



I WISH I KNEW  
WHICH VERSE TO USE  
AGAINST ANOTHER  
PIECE OF  
CHOCOLATE CAKE.



MATTHEW 4:1-11

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